July 2007



DEE'S RADIO SHOWS

While Dave Cisco spends some vacation time on the sunny beaches of the Florida panhandle, it looks like yours truly will be doing this month's newsletter. The exciting things continue to happen here at the Alabama Historical Radio Society. The Alabama Power Co., in a joint venture with the Birmingham Public Library, will be putting on a program during the month of November. It will be several weeks long, and The Alabama Historical Radio Society has been invited to participate. At this time, we are not sure just how much time and effort we will need to put into this project, but, to say the least, it will be one of the largest projects we have attempted thus far. This could put our club in front of the public in a big way. Please plan to set aside time in November so you can help us with this project. One of the coordinators of the project will be Marjorie White, a local historian with the Birmingham Historical Society. She has written several books about the history of the steel industry here in Birmingham. It was my pleasure to show her our Huffman site this past Saturday, July 7th and she was very impressed. I look forward to working with Marjorie to make the Birmingham Public Library presentation a big success.

To keep everyone up to date on the shop, we are working diligently on the parts bins. I have made 100 cigar box size drawers for the parts room. Thanks, Theo, for your help. We need help in sorting out all the parts and putting them in the boxes. I plan to have a small database showing what parts are in each box. I will print it out and hang it on the wall. Also, I just bought a new book for our library. It is a Mark V Stein book about Sears "Silvertone" Radios from 1930 to 1942. It has the original ads and a price guide in the back. So, if you have an old Silvertone in your collection, look for it in the new book. It's in the library now. We also just got in "Table Top Radios Vol. 4" by Mark Stein.

A friend sent me a really good site with beautifully restored Boat Anchors on it. No, these radios would not work too well after being dropped in the drink. It is just a Ham radio term for big heave tube radios of the past. You folks with internet access check it out:

http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~postr/bapix/index.html

Well, I've started listening to "Let George Do It." It should have been named "George Ballentine, Private Dick," because that's what it is, private eye, "in your face" type stuff from the late 40's. Anyway, it is 30 minutes long and two of the shows will do in an hour if you have nothing better to do. There are about 170 odd shows in our collection.

Do you like trivia? Well, here is one for you. What is the longest title on the "flip side" of a number one hit rock and roll song? Hint: it would have been on the back of a 45 RPM record in the '60's. In fact, this is such a hard one I will award a prize for the first AHRS member who gets it right. The first member to give me the correct answer will win a 12 volt regulated power supply (500 ma). It won't drive a boat anchor, but it will power a scanner or other small radios. If no one gets it this month, I'll give you another hint plus add another prize to the jackpot next month.

That's it for now, and, as Lowell Thomas once said, "So long until tomorrow" or was that next week?

Dee Haynes

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A new summer listening contest is being sponsored by the folks on the Homebrew Radios section at the antiqueradios.com forum site. The contest runs July 29, 2007 starting at 0001Z until August 4, 2007 at 2359Z. Copy and paste this URL into your browser for more info:

http://radiocontest.nostalgitronics.com/

Jack also sends along information that the crystal website has moved!!! Due to space limitations at the old site, they have moved to a new location. Dave Schmarder jumped in and solved the problem of dwindling space on the old website. He has applied his programming skills and repackaged the website.

To get to the new site, simply type crystalradio.us into your Browser URL window. You will be redirected to the new site. Please change your Browser bookmarks to the new crystalradio.us location.



Note from your newsletter editor:

Good evening! We are almost entirely unpacked! Tom is back on the air, so things are good here in Conway. There's an active ham group here in town that meets every Friday for lunch, so we are getting acquainted with the locals. Our guest room is ready for its first guest, so plan to stop by if you are traveling through Conway on I-40. We are easy to find and would welcome a friendly face from Alabama!

MEETING TIMES

We meet nearly every Saturday of the month at 09:00 at the Alabama Power Building on Parkway East (aka Centerpoint Parkway) in Huffman. The organization's space is accessed from the rear of the building, so park around the back (by means of Huffman Road, which runs parallel to the Parkway). Entry is via the door on the right.

Come to the Monday Night Meetings, TOO, on the 4th Monday of the month at 7 PM!

FREE ELECTRONICS CLASSES

The first Saturday of the month, there are electronics classes free to members. Topics include test equipment, Resistors and Capacitance testing, Inductors and coil winding, to name only a few subjects!

We hope to see you there!



DUES ARE NOW DUE

Membership dues are \$25 a year, payable beginning in January. If you have questions about your dues, you can contact Julian at 205-879-3619.

Dues can be mailed to AHRS @ P.O. Box 130307, Birmingham AL 35213.

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